or desert her heartlessly. He offers to marry her on the condition that they reject the fortune which has corne to him from Milly. if Kate wants money, she can have it without him. He tells her, "You lose nothing else. 1 make over to you every penny."[31] Kate loses "nothing else" because, as Densher sees it, the loss of Densher means nothing to her, compared to her loss of Miily's millions. Kate wants Densher's word of honour that he is not in love with Miily's memory. This he cannot give, because Miily's memory is his "love/* and he requires "no other'*. It is thus clear to both that they cannot marry, for they can "never be again as they were." it is ironical that at the moment of triumph, Kate finds herself parting from her lover for ever. Kate gains a fortune through wickedness, but loses tier lover; Milly loses her life and fortunes, but gains the eternal gratitude and love of Densher by her love, forgiveness and sacrifice.

The value of refinement is, ironically enough, affirmed by emphasizing the paradoxical nature of its occurrence in the story. Kate, ignorant of, and uncultured in, true refinement harps on Us achievements, "There are refinements... I mean of consciousness, of sensation, of appreciation... men don't know. They know in such matters nothing but what women show them."[35] Achieving the know-4edge of refinement, through the tortuous indirection of experience, Densher discovers that in observing and exercising the truth he must Inevitably lose Kate, although she has, partly awakened him to its presence in him and in the world. Refinement when it does arrive terminates what might have been a marriage of convenience; but this dramatic separation of the intended couple leads to a true marriage of .spirit between the quick and the dead, the regenerated Densher and the disembodied Milly Theale, the renewed Adam and the redeemed .Eve. Like Lambert Strether, Densher also owes his expanded and refined consciousness to the influence of women. The love and charity of Milly refines Densher's moral nature by purifying it of such

base elements as selfishness, immorality and greed, An awareness of appearance and reality, of the obstinate facts of life and their links .with universal destiny/ is thus the measure of one's refinement.

In *The Golden Bowl.* Henry James reiterates the pervasive centrality-of refinement in human happiness. Dramatised in the novel ^is the moral education and refinement of the aesthetic Prince Amerigo ;through the conflicting, but complementary, influences of the innocertt, tart maturing, Maggie Verver on ope h^no[1] and the corrupt